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THE NGO JOINT INITIATIVE FOR URBAN ZIMBABWE

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QUARTERLY REPORT for Period:
JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2013

Report Date: October 30, 2013

Contextual Issues

The operating environment has remained generally peaceful in the country after the holding of the national elections which were conducted in the second quarter of the year. However the economy has taken a lukewarm stance as it is not clear what policies the Government will pursue to turn around the economy. The situation in the cities where the program is operating has remained the same with the water, sanitation and hygiene situation worsening due to high temperatures without any indication that the water and sanitation issues will improve in the near future. In Chitungwiza and Mbare the unabated bursting sewer pipes are complicating the already critical situation. Should the situation remain like this into the rainy season, the prevalence of water borne diseases is likely going to increase.

Progress Report

The program was in its preliminary stages during the quarter. The quarter has seen the start up of the JI urban Zimbabwe program. A programme start up meeting was conducted with all the JI partners (CRS, Africare, Oxfam, Care and Mercy Corps). All partners reported that the program was accepted in all the targeted cities (Mutare, Mbare, Chitungwiza, Bulawayo and Masvingo). During the period, all the partners were in the process of signing memorandums of understanding with the respective municipal authorities.

Beneficiary registration has already started in Mutare, Bulawayo and Chitungwiza and will be completed in the next quarter.

The baseline data collection for the program started during this quarter and the baseline findings will be reported in the next quarter.

Plans for the Next Quarter

- All of the partners will commence and complete beneficiary registrations in the five cities.
- Baseline survey will be conducted.
- All partners will hold Community Based Disaster Risk Management Training and planning sessions to pave way for other activities and determine content to address identified risks and vulnerabilities.
- Participatory Health and Hygiene Education sessions through schools and community health clubs will commence during the quarter.
- As we approach the rainy season, which is the high transmission season for diarrhoeal diseases, JI partners in collaboration with PSI and City Councils are going to implement activities to promote Point of Use Water Treatment (POUWT). Through intensified PHHE, the activities will be focused on promoting waterguard, which is readily available on the market as the choice of POUWT options by households in the JI operational areas.